on 31st March, 2000 to help boost exports: setting up of" Special Economic Zones, Involvement of state Governments in export promotion efforts, initiatives relating to e-commerce, rationalisation of existing export promotion schemes. rationalisation in certain specific sectors, encouragement of export of quality/ branded goods and further procedural simplifications.

Growth Centres approved for Gujarat

*417. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of each of the growth Centres approved for the State of Gujarat;

(b) whether the State Government of Gujarat is submitting quarterly progress report on the growth centres regularly:

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action the Central Government have taken for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) The progress reported by the State Government of Gujarat on the implementation of the three growth centres approved for that State as on 31.12.1999 is as follow:

Vagra (District Bharauch): A number of plots have been developed and allotted. Infrastructure relating to road, water supply, drainage and power supply has been developed to a large extent. Full Central assistance of Rs. 10 crores has been released for this growth centre.

Palanpur (District Banaskantha): A part of the land required for the growth centre has been acquired for development of infrastructure. Central assistance amounting to Rs. 100 lakhs has been released for this growth centre.

Gandhidham (District Kutch) : The land acquisition for the growth centre is not yet complete. Central assistance amounting to Rs. 100 lakhs has been released for this growth centre.

(b) to (d) Progress report for the quarter ended 31.12.1999 has been received from the State Government/implementing agency in respect of all the three growth centres. Sometimes, there is delay in receipt of quarterly progress report from the State Government. Whenever there is delay, the State Government is advised to furnish the report expeditiously.